

A fiasco in the making in Sullivan County

To the Editor:

I only know what I read in the papers. That said, let me express my dissatisfaction with the events that have transpired affecting the Sullivan County Home at the hands of the Sullivan County Commissioners and the Sullivan County Delegation since the Democrats have taken over.

It seems that the majority of Democrats are opposed to professional management of the facility by Genesis because it is a business as opposed to a governmental bureaucracy.

There also seems to be a hidden campaign to discredit both Genesis and county managerial personnel with the purpose of establishing a pretext for getting rid of Genesis. There seems to be insufficient concern about the adverse publicity undeservedly directed toward the county home.

I think it is irresponsible to oust Genesis without alternative competent management in place and it is most unwise to take the management of the county home back to the bad old days of management by politicians.

The county home was losing \$1.7 million a year before Genesis straightened out the billing, filled the empty beds and established an efficient management structure for the facility. Are we to kill the goose that laid the golden egg and go back to the bad old days?

Is it legitimate for the Delegation to usurp the constitutional powers of the Commissioners and is it proper for Rep. Peter Franklin to publicly demean the integrity of members of the county's professional staff. If he did such a thing to me, I'd be considering a lawsuit.

All of this and many other developments since the Democrats took over seem contrived to add to the ever-increasing tax burden and cost of living of the not too affluent population of Sullivan County. If your reading of the papers leads you to similar conclusions, speak out.

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